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Consumer Price Index, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin — November 2019

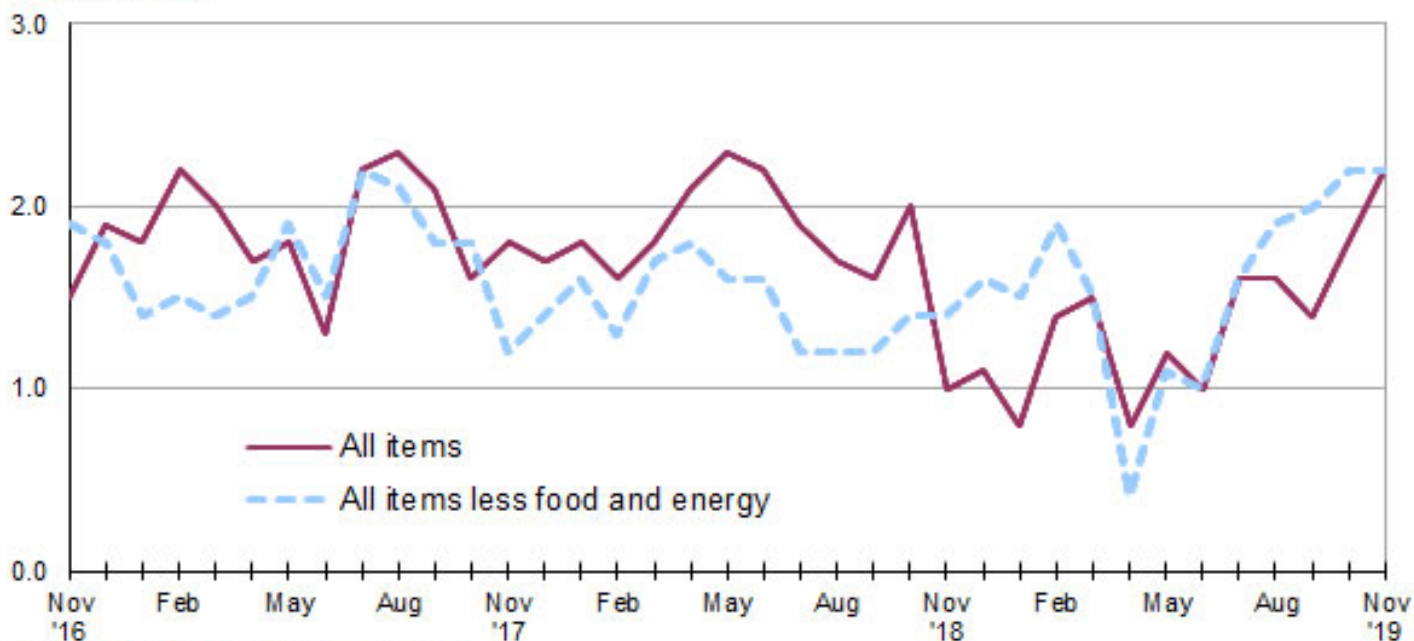
Local prices up 2.2 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Chicago-Naperville-Elgin area decreased 0.2 percent in November, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that the index for all items less food and energy was essentially unchanged, down 0.1 percent, while the energy index decreased 2.1 percent over the month. The food index declined 0.3 percent over the month. Within the all items less food and energy category, prices were lower over the month for medical care and apparel. Prices were higher for recreation and new and used motor vehicles. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the Chicago area all items CPI-U increased 2.2 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A.](#)) Over the year, the food index rose 1.9 percent, while both the energy and all items less food and energy indexes each rose 2.2 percent. (See [table 1.](#))

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI, November 2016–November 2019

Percent change



Food

Food prices fell 0.3 percent in November. Of the two components within the food index, prices for food at home (groceries) decreased 0.7 percent, while prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) were essentially unchanged, up 0.1 percent. Within the food at home group, indexes were lower in November for uncooked beef steaks, potatoes, and breakfast cereal.

From November 2018 to November 2019, the food index increased 1.9 percent. Over the year, grocery prices rose 1.2 percent, and costs for food away from home were up 2.8 percent.

Energy

The energy index declined 2.1 percent in November. Among the index's components, prices were lower for gasoline (-2.1 percent) and electricity (-3.8 percent), while utility (piped) gas service costs increased 0.9 percent.

Over the year, the Chicago area energy index rose 2.2 percent. From November 2018 to November 2019, gasoline prices were up 5.4 percent and the electricity index increased 2.4 percent. Utility (piped) gas service costs were 6.7 percent lower over the year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy was essentially unchanged, down 0.1 percent, in November. Among the index's components, prices were lower over the month for medical care (-2.1 percent) and apparel (-3.9 percent). Prices were higher for recreation (3.0 percent) and new and used motor vehicles (0.6 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 2.2 percent. Contributing factors were increases in the indexes for shelter (2.5 percent), medical care (3.9 percent), and recreation (5.3 percent).

Table A. Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI, CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January.....	-0.2	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.7	1.8	0.8	1.8	0.6	0.8
February.....	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.7	0.1	2.2	0.0	1.6	0.6	1.4
March.....	0.7	-0.6	0.1	0.2	-0.1	2.0	0.0	1.8	0.1	1.5
April.....	0.1	-0.9	0.6	0.7	0.4	1.7	0.7	2.1	-0.1	0.8
May.....	0.3	-0.5	0.0	0.3	0.2	1.8	0.4	2.3	0.8	1.2
June.....	0.2	-0.7	0.5	0.7	0.0	1.3	-0.2	2.2	-0.4	1.0
July.....	-0.1	-0.5	-0.8	-0.1	0.0	2.2	-0.3	1.9	0.3	1.6
August.....	0.4	-0.1	0.2	-0.2	0.3	2.3	0.1	1.7	0.2	1.6
September.....	-0.3	-0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	2.1	0.4	1.6	0.2	1.4
October.....	-0.1	-0.2	0.1	0.8	-0.4	1.6	0.0	2.0	0.3	1.8
November.....	-0.4	0.2	0.2	1.5	0.4	1.8	-0.6	1.0	-0.2	2.2
December.....	-0.6	0.0	-0.2	1.9	-0.4	1.7	-0.3	1.1		

The December 2019 Consumer Price Index for Chicago is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, January 14, 2020.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 93 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 75 urban areas across the country from about 5,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The **Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI, Core Based Statistical Area** covered in this release is comprised of Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will Counties in Illinois; Jasper, Lake, Newton, and Porter Counties in Indiana; and Kenosha County in Wisconsin.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019	Nov. 2019	Nov. 2018	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019
Expenditure category						
All items	242.393	243.236	242.661	2.2	0.1	-0.2
All items (1967=100)	724.170	726.689	724.971	-	-	-
Food and beverages	254.636	254.591	253.866	1.8	-0.3	-0.3
Food	254.249	254.228	253.398	1.9	-0.3	-0.3
Food at home	238.548	238.017	236.422	1.2	-0.9	-0.7
Cereals and bakery products	268.234	268.304	264.576	0.6	-1.4	-1.4
Meats, poultry, fish and eggs	252.913	253.620	249.628	0.1	-1.3	-1.6
Dairy and related products	210.248	211.417	214.825	3.7	2.2	1.6
Fruits and vegetables	315.429	318.276	310.262	-0.4	-1.6	-2.5
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1)	198.611	193.406	191.853	3.1	-3.4	-0.8
Other food at home	191.204	189.463	191.433	1.7	0.1	1.0
Food away from home	270.847	271.474	271.631	2.8	0.3	0.1
Alcoholic beverages	258.107	257.690	258.646	-0.8	0.2	0.4
Housing	254.878	254.575	254.463	2.1	-0.2	0.0
Shelter	324.837	323.521	323.795	2.5	-0.3	0.1
Rent of primary residence(2)	342.622	342.926	343.813	2.4	0.3	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2)(3)	331.038	331.363	331.919	2.8	0.3	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(2)(3)	331.038	331.363	331.919	2.8	0.3	0.2
Fuels and utilities	204.432	208.189	205.519	0.3	0.5	-1.3
Household energy	157.115	160.985	157.713	-1.2	0.4	-2.0
Energy services(2)	160.195	164.145	160.732	-1.3	0.3	-2.1
Electricity(2)	163.074	168.224	161.761	2.4	-0.8	-3.8
Utility (piped) gas service(2)	142.855	144.752	146.011	-6.7	2.2	0.9
Household furnishings and operations	88.852	89.177	89.314	0.5	0.5	0.2
Apparel	91.865	90.521	87.005	4.4	-5.3	-3.9
Transportation	186.423	186.238	185.390	0.9	-0.6	-0.5
Private transportation	183.615	183.049	182.213	1.3	-0.8	-0.5
New and used motor vehicles(4)	95.349	94.954	95.540	-0.7	0.2	0.6
New vehicles(1)	171.067	170.791	173.304	-0.2	1.3	1.5
Used cars and trucks(1)	267.052	266.164	263.534	0.0	-1.3	-1.0
Motor fuel	247.120	241.486	236.368	5.3	-4.4	-2.1
Gasoline (all types)	244.611	238.971	233.859	5.4	-4.4	-2.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular(5)	235.512	229.953	224.959	5.5	-4.5	-2.2
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(5)(6)	270.997	265.299	260.304	5.0	-3.9	-1.9
Gasoline, unleaded premium(5)	268.770	264.087	259.097	4.5	-3.6	-1.9
Motor vehicle insurance(1)	531.302	553.612	547.509	-1.4	3.1	-1.1
Medical care	507.079	536.308	525.046	3.9	3.5	-2.1
Recreation(4)	113.185	112.668	116.093	5.3	2.6	3.0
Education and communication(4)	141.582	141.584	142.240	0.4	0.5	0.5
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare(1) ..	1,196.376	1,204.640	1,204.579	2.6	0.7	0.0
Other goods and services	409.974	407.960	406.353	1.7	-0.9	-0.4
Commodity and service group						
All items	242.393	243.236	242.661	2.2	0.1	-0.2
Commodities	169.791	169.224	168.199	1.8	-0.9	-0.6
Commodities less food and beverages	127.685	126.989	125.945	1.8	-1.4	-0.8
Nondurables less food and beverages	176.737	174.921	171.035	2.9	-3.2	-2.2
Durables	83.826	83.956	84.951	0.3	1.3	1.2
Services	311.419	313.643	313.519	2.4	0.7	0.0

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019	Nov. 2019	Nov. 2018	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	231.040	230.637	230.531	2.0	-0.2	0.0
All items less shelter	214.474	216.073	215.200	2.0	0.3	-0.4
Commodities less food	132.268	131.567	130.546	1.7	-1.3	-0.8
Nondurables	216.299	215.235	212.677	2.3	-1.7	-1.2
Nondurables less food	182.231	180.459	176.749	2.7	-3.0	-2.1
Services less rent of shelter(3)	312.864	319.014	318.473	2.1	1.8	-0.2
Services less medical care services	296.916	296.774	297.505	2.0	0.2	0.2
Energy	192.558	192.273	188.275	2.2	-2.2	-2.1
All items less energy	249.115	250.072	249.816	2.2	0.3	-0.1
All items less food and energy	249.081	250.198	250.035	2.2	0.4	-0.1

Footnotes

(1) Index on a December 1977=100 base.

(2) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(3) Index on a December 1982=100 base.

(4) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

(5) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(6) Index on a December 1993=100 base.

- Data not available.

Note: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date. Data not seasonally adjusted.